Written by Dexter Presley
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With the start of October underway, that means only one thing; Halloween is right around the corner. As things slowly begin to pop up on your calendar for things to do, don't forget to check out these haunted houses that are fully capable of scaring you into the Halloween spirit.

The Nest--Chandler

Recently named "The Spookiest Place in America" by both Good Morning America and ABC News, the bar created by the Nest has never been higher. Embarking on the quest of making the frightfulness of haunted houses a personal one, this year they will be integrating new technology into their show that has never been used before.

The premise behind the Nest is unlike most haunted houses that you will encounter. Instead of having simple gimmicks that pop up to induce fear or a reaction, without any real meaning, the Nest is centered around a story.

Without giving too much away, the behind Arizona's most gruesome serial killer, Jacob Kell. The narrative of his life is something straight from a horror story, and has launched this spine-chilling phenomenon to being one of the best haunted houses in the Valley. There's a reason why people return here year after year.

For additional information, visit: http://www.frightened.com

Chambers of Fear--Phoenix

Full of scream and scares looming around each corner, Chambers of Fear is back for another season of terrifying experiences. With humble beginnings over more than 24 years ago while being ran out of a three car garage and driveway, what was then known as The Haunt on Villa Linda has come a long way.

Originated by themes of traditional scares, animatronics and sound effects, it has grown in size by five times since 1998, and transformed into the Dreadful Domain, and added Skull Asylum, and The Crypt to form one of the Valley's largest halloweenHalloween events--Arizona Fright Nights.

This year; however, Chambers of Fear will be unveiling two new houses:, Hillbilly Nightmare, a Government Nuclear testing zone that's hidden with cannibalistic inhabitants looming around every corner and Den of Darkness, which requires visitors to feel their way through an all-black attraction.

If you aren't inclined to participate in the daunting festivities of the night, there are food and drink specials, car shows, and speciality specialty vendors that will be in attendance.

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For additional information, visit: http://chambersoffear.com



Fear Farm---Phoenix

There's nothing more grimacing than seeing a clown lurk around a dark corner. Unfortunately for us, Fear Farm features clowns in a lot of their events and let me tell you, they are all sorts of creepy.

Similar to Chambers of Fear, the farm is broken into several different attractions, appropriately called 'Haunts.' Though their titles leave little to the imagination, they each have their own level of unpredictability and strangeness that will scare you to the bone.

While visiting the farm, guests have the choice to pick from the Chainsaw Mayhem, Section 13, Condemned, Annihilation, and Twizted Toy Factor. With this many options, you're night can be full of screams. This is the perfect place to bring a group of friends on a Friday or Saturday night, after all, courage may be formed in numbers.

For additional information, visit: http://fearfarm.com

AZ Field of Screams Haunted Corn Field---Glendale

Bringing back the most general form of fear, what could be more scaryscarier than being out in an open area with someone chasing you?

The Ffield of Screams could be considered a version of the classic film, "Children of the Corn" as the height of the corn and pure darkness create a rush of adrenaline that will make you have the urge to run even when nothing is there. But be careful, the five-acre maze is full of trickery--open graves or a never-ending hallway.

With the sound of screams, laughing clowns, and chainsaws that fill the night air, this beautiful cornfield during the day becomes something of terror as the sun goes down.

For additional information, visit: http://www.azfieldofscreams.com

13th Floor---Phoenix

This attraction is bBased around the superstition related to the number 13, and the frequent avoidance of the number when it comes to

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multi-story buildings because bad luck, unexplained strange behavior, and mystery. It has been noted that some places have even gone as far as not having a floor labelledlabeled the '13.'

The 13th Floor Haunted House encompasses all these notions and more when it comes to creating a place that's eerie and unsettling. The creators of the haunted house have uncovered various locations in Phoenix that capture the legend of the number that binds two worlds of reality and creative conception.

From these locations, guests are place in a fantasy world, almost as if you're in one of those horror movies that are shown on TV during this time. Zombieland, an abandoned city full of the undead, is the perfect example of this and will definitely having you talking about it to your friends the day after. It takes anywhere from 45 -minutes to an hour to get through both the 13th floor Haunted House and Zombieland.

For additional information, visit: http://13flooraz.com



Arizona's Original Scream Park---Scottsdale

The oldest and one of the largest haunted houses in the Valley, different types of nightmares are brought to life. Whether it's clowns, spiders, or things popping up in front of you this park has it all. There are four haunts featured here: Horror High, Castle of Darkness, Goldminers Revenge, and 3-D Fear Factory.

By far the creepiest, and coolest thing that can be seen throughout the park at random times during the night. is the undead Alice from the popular novel and movie, "Alice in Wonderland." But it's not all scares here. Every night at 9 p.m., all monsters come out for a huge dance off and hand out prizes. You can even join in and dance with them.

For additional information, visit: http://www.azscreampark.com

Dark Scares Haunted Attraction---Mesa

Dark Scares was voted our Best Haunted House last year, and with that comes great expectations. This year there are more scares to come with as it presents the Dark Scares Hotel and Black Mirror Casino.

Not only are there plenty of things to entice screaming, the thing that makes Dark Scares unique from others is the effort by its staff to fully commit to scaring you as much as possible and putting on a show that's worth every penny.

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For additional information, visit: $\underline{\text{http://www.darkscares.com}}$